

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS—1ST SESSION, AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2015

(In millions of dollars)

| | 2015–2020 | 2015–2025 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance ^a | 0 | 0 |
| Enacted Legislation: ^{b,c,d} | | |
| Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–17) ^e | n.e. | n.e. |
| Construction Authorization and Choice Improvement Act (P.L. 114–19) | 20 | 20 |
| Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–22) | 1 | 2 |
| Uniting and Strengthening America by Fulfilling Rights and Ensuring Effective Discipline Over Monitoring Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–23) | * | * |
| An act to extend the authorization to carry out the replacement of the existing medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Denver, Colorado (P.L. 114–25) | 150 | 150 |
| Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act & Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–26) | –1 | 5 |
| Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–27) | –640 | –52 |
| Boys Town Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 114–30) ^f | 0 | 0 |
| Steve Gleason Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–40) | 13 | 28 |
| Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–41) | –1,552 | –6,924 |
| Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–54) | * | * |
| Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–58) | 624 | 624 |
| Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees Act (P.L. 114–60) | –32 | –2 |
| Gold Star Fathers Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–62) | * | * |
| Ensuring Access to Clinical Trials Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–63) | * | * |
| Adoptive Family Relief Act (P.L. 114–70) | * | * |
| Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015 (H.R. 774) | * | * |
| A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to clarify waiver authority regarding programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE programs) (S. 1362) | * | * |
| Current Balance | –1,417 | –6,149 |
| Memorandum: | | |
| Changes to Revenues | 4,140 | –1,284 |
| Changes to Outlays | 2,723 | –7,433 |

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Notes: n.e. = not able to estimate; P.L. = Public Law. * = between –\$500,000 and \$500,000.

^a Pursuant to S. Con. Res. 11, the Senate Pay-As-You-Go Scorecard was reset to zero.^b The amounts shown represent the estimated impact of the public laws on the deficit. Negative numbers indicate an increase in the deficit; positive numbers indicate a decrease in the deficit.^c Excludes off-budget amounts.^d Excludes amounts designated as emergency requirements.^e P.L. 114–17 could affect direct spending and revenues, but such impacts would depend on future actions of the President that CBO cannot predict. (<http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/bofiles/attachments/s615.pdf>)^f P.L. 114–30 will cause a decrease in spending of \$5 million in 2017 and an increase in spending of \$5 million in 2019 for a net impact of zero over the six-year and eleven-year periods.

EPA GOLD KING MINE SPILL

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, last month the Senate Indian Affairs Committee held an oversight hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency's Gold King Mine disaster. I am very grateful that Chairman JOHN BARRASSO and Vice Chairman JON TESTER quickly made this matter a priority for their committee following the August break. The hearing focused on the harmful impacts that spill is having on Indian Country, namely the Navajo Nation, the Southern Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe.

On the Navajo Nation, an estimated 1,500 farms have been damaged by the EPA and its contractors when they released a deluge of tailings-pond wastewater from the abandoned Gold King Mine. On August 5, 2015, an acidic plume of mercury, arsenic, and other

metals worked its way down the Animas River in Colorado and into the San Juan River near Farmington, NM. Nobody yet knows for certain the total damage to crops, soil, livestock, wildlife, and water supplies that are critical sources of food for the Navajo people and also serve as economic and cultural centers. Those farmers who were able to shut down their irrigation systems watched in horror as their crops wilted.

The EPA now says water quality in the San Juan River has returned to “pre-event levels,” but the Gold King Mine is still releasing water roughly at 600 gallons per minute. The concentrations of toxic metals may not as be as high today as it was during the initial 3 million gallon flush, but the Navajo are still waiting for EPA to demonstrate it can prevent another large release. The nation is rightfully demanding assurances that heavy rainfall won't disturb toxic substances that may have settled in the sediment of the Animas River, the San Juan River, or even Lake Powell.

In August, I—along with Arizona Governor Doug Ducey—met with Navajo Nation president Russell Begaye and Navajo council speaker Lorenzo Bates in Window Rock, AZ, to discuss this matter. I can assure my colleagues that the Navajo are suffering deeply and dearly because of this spill. I have also received calls and letters from a number of concerned constituents, mayors, county supervisors, and businesses in northern Arizona who also have a stake in the health and safety of Lake Powell. They are just as alarmed as the Navajo people that the plume could endanger their livelihoods and their enjoyment of natural resources in their communities. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Arizona Geological Survey have been expending scarce resources to conduct water samples independent of EPA. And that has been helpful. But the Federal Government has to step up and take action that would allow all affected stakeholders, but especially tribal communities, find confidence in what the Federal Government is doing to fix the mess that it created.

At last month's hearing, we received testimony from EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and others dealing with the spill, including the Navajo Nation president, Russell Begaye. We also received testimony from Doug Holtz-Eakin, a noted economist and former Director of the Congressional Budget Office. Mr. Holtz-Eakin estimated that the spill will cost the Navajo's agriculture sector roughly \$41,000 a day in lost economic activity.

While I am grateful that Administrator McCarthy agreed to appear before the committee, I am concerned that, under her watch, not a single Agency employee or contractor had been fired for the disaster. In her testimony, Administrator McCarthy portrayed the EPA's response to the tribes as timely, but her portrayal was di-

rectly contradicted by the testimony of the Navajo president, who noted that it took EPA 2 days to notify the tribe about the plume's threat to the tribe. It was also revealed that Administrator McCarthy did not directly contact President Begaye for about 5 days after the spill. The committee also received testimony that EPA had not quickly and routinely shared water monitoring data with the tribes. All of this shatters any notion that EPA has honored its government-to-government responsibility to the nation.

The Gold King Mine spill was a series of failures by EPA that compounded, and the Navajo are paying the price. I will continue to push for increased congressional oversight into this matter.

HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I speak on behalf of the Delaware delegation to honor Head Start's 50 years of service to our Nation's most vulnerable children and families in Delaware and nationwide. On May 18, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson launched Project Head Start as an 8-week summer demonstration project to teach low-income students needed skills before they started kindergarten. Over the past 50 years, Head Start has served 32 million children and families across the country with comprehensive services.

The Head Start Program has given children and families the tools to succeed by ensuring a high quality education and access to health care and social services. The Head Start Program represents a critical investment in the education of our nation's youngest children. In the State of Delaware, 2,714 children and pregnant women benefitted from Head Start, Early Head Start, and the Early Childhood Assistance Program in 2014. Head Start is instrumental in uplifting families in Delaware by providing resources to families who, like many of us, want to see their children reach their full potential.

The teachers, home visitors, and family service workers that make up the Head Start Program are the backbone of this mission. Without them on the front lines each and every day, these early education goals would not be met. I commend the teachers and staff who are deeply committed to seeing all children succeed. On behalf of Senator CHRIS COONS and Congressman JOHN CARNEY, I recognize Head Start Awareness Month and the 50th Anniversary of Head Start. It is our sincere hope that future generations of children and families can continue to greatly benefit from Head Start's programs and we can put children on the right path from the very beginning.

OBSERVING INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, October 11 marked the second annual International Day of the Girl. This day

brings together people and advocacy groups to raise awareness about the challenges facing girls around the world. Tragically, today's regional crises are having a disproportionately destructive impact on girls. 2015 marks the year with the highest number of displaced persons since World War II. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, women and girls comprise half of any refugee or internally displaced population. Crises such as the ongoing conflict in Syria, over 1.5 million displaced in South Sudan, and the expanding migrant crisis in Europe, among others, risk leaving an entire generation of girls shaped by a lack of opportunity, gender-based violence, forced marriage, and disrupted education.

Access to education is often a top priority for refugee families upon resettling in a foreign country. We know that, if empowered with the appropriate tools, girls can be facilitators of change who can transform their own lives, as well as the lives of their families, communities, and societies and serve as a bulwark against the conditions that contribute to extremism that so many terrorist groups have exploited, often at the expense of women and girls. The lack of access to education for refugee girls stifles empowerment and stands in the way of achieving a durable solution to conflict.

As the United States and the international community work to cope with the current refugee crisis, it is critical that we focus not only on security but on the basic needs of refugees, such as access to education and increasing the role of women and girls in humanitarian response and civil society programs.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS ROCKROADS, JR.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I wish to honor Thomas Rockroads, Jr., a veteran of the Vietnam war. On behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, I would like to thank Mr. Rockroads for his service to our State and to our Nation. It is my privilege to share Thomas's story for the official Senate Record.

Thomas Rockroads, Jr., was born on December 21, 1948, in Crow Agency, MT. His father worked in sawmills in both Kirby and Lame Deer and was a ranch hand and coal miner in Lame Deer. His mother worked for many years at the Northern Hotel before coming home to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. He spent his childhood in Busby and attended Busby High School until joining the Army his junior year.

In September of 1968, he volunteered for the Army Airborne Infantry, and by September of 1969, he found himself jumping out of helicopters and into the highlands of Vietnam. Thomas was a member of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, which was stationed in the hot, humid Tiger Mountains of Vietnam's Central

Highlands. Their responsibilities included rescuing and evacuating ground forces, as well as setting up perimeters for operations. They were right in the thick of things, and, as Thomas once put it, "If there was a hot spot where reinforcements were needed . . . we were there." On more than one occasion, this proved to be an important but harrowing position to be in. One night, when the brigade was charged with setting up a perimeter on a hillside, Thomas and his comrades felt particularly concerned. They knew the area was likely heavily booby-trapped, so they proceeded with extra caution. Their mission was to intercept the North Vietnamese forces headed in their direction, and after establishing a perimeter, they were allowed a few hours of rest before being put on high alert. A few hours later, while he was trying to get some sleep, Thomas suddenly heard a blast, and he was thrown nearly a dozen feet from his makeshift tent. Thomas quickly realized that someone had set off a booby trap, but before he could process much else, a medic began calling his name and he rushed over to help. Thomas worked with the medic to care for his fellow soldier, but shortly thereafter the man died in Thomas's arms.

A few days later, Thomas and his brigade found themselves under siege again—this time, without cover, they came face to face with enemy soldiers. The North Vietnamese troops, equipped with an anti-aircraft gun and hiding inside an irrigation trench, began rapid firing on Thomas and his platoon. Knowing they needed air support, Thomas headed right toward the anti-aircraft gun—as long as it was operable, American helicopters couldn't access the area. However, his M16 was jammed, so under heavy fire, he had to dislodge the trapped bullets and replace them with a new magazine. He and a fellow soldier finally located the enemy's weapon at the far end of a hedgerow and headed back into the firestorm with one aim—to disarm it. Before they could reach their target, an enemy soldier intercepted them, lobbing a grenade directly at Thomas and his comrade. They both ran for cover, and thankfully the grenade failed to detonate, but mere seconds after that, another soldier charged them, firing wildly at Thomas and his platoon. The soldier was not more than 10 feet away from Thomas when he finally went down.

Thomas returned to Busby, MT, a full 365 days after his deployment. He remarkably didn't sustain a single scratch. But like many of his fellow veterans, despite his lack of visible wounds, Thomas has struggled with the unseen wounds of war. Thirty-five years after coming back from Vietnam, he was formally diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Despite this often debilitating struggle, Thomas has spent the last 30 years working for Western Energy's Rosebud Mine at Colstrip and raising two

daughters and a son with his wife, Charlotte, of 38 years. He also has grandchildren. He credits his family with helping him heal. "It's all the support of my family that's got me where I'm at today," Thomas said. "My wife is always supporting me. My daughters, my son and my grandchildren—I'm very, very fortunate."

However, Thomas is still haunted by his memories daily, and he doesn't want other soldiers to have to suffer the way he has had to. He believes, like I do, that our commitment to our veterans is a cost of war, and we must make it a priority to help, protect, and serve those who served. Too many of our Vietnam veterans never got the homecoming or the recognition they deserved. So today I am honored to have the opportunity to thank Thomas for his bravery both in battle and beyond. He is a Montanan born and bred, and his life has been a testament to the kind of commitment, courage, and compassion that our State can be proud of.

It was my honor to recognize Thomas Rockroads, Jr. by presenting him with the Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge 1st Award, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with 1960 Device, Sharpshooter Badge with auto rifle bar with rifle bar, Marksman Badge with machine gun bar, and the Parachutist Badge Basic.

Our State and our Nation thank you, Thomas, for your service and for a soldier's sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING MENTOR: THE NATIONAL MENTORING PARTNERSHIP

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, the leadership of its founders, Geoffrey T. Boisi and Raymond G. Chambers, and the expansion of the mentoring field in the past quarter century.

This year, MENTOR celebrates its 25th anniversary. Its founders, Geoffrey T. Boisi and Raymond G. Chambers, were leading businessmen and philanthropists who understood the value of mentoring in their own lives. They believed passionately that the intervention of a caring adult is a critical element in the life of a young person, and they believed that every young person needs and deserves a powerful relationship that supports their growth and gives them the opportunity for success.

In 1990, Boisi and Chambers recognized the powerful impact that mentoring could have on our Nation's at-risk youth, and they started a movement to increase opportunity for all young people by establishing MENTOR. The success of Boisi's and Chambers' efforts has been remarkable. That first year, approximately 300,000 youth at risk of falling off track were paired with a caring adult through a structured mentoring program. Today, 4.5 million at-risk young people will find